IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO. EL49770549US

Applicant

Joseph Neev, Ph.D.

Filed

Not Yet

Title

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR HIGH PRECISION

VARIABLE RATE MATERIAL, REMOVAL AND

MODIFICATION

Docket No.:

39428/NEC/Y54

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 Post Office Box 7068 Pasadena, CA 91109-7068 August 2, 2000

Commissioner:

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IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please add:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of allowed Application No. 09/054,834, filed April 3, 1998, which claimed the benefit of the filing date of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/050,416, filed June 4, 1997, the disclosures of both are incorporated fully herein by reference.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-34, 39-47, 54, and claims 67-81.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By

Norman E. Carta Reg. No. 30,455 626/795-9900

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